

Halcombe School



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Term 3 Week 10

28th September 2021

Tena Koutou Katoa - Greetings to all parents and caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou,

In the last newsletter, I talked about the privilege I had in doing walk-arounds of classrooms and seeing what goes on day by day. The recent Achievement Report to the Board of Trustees has been a highlight for me to present and talk about. Our students do very well here! Not every school can say that - our classes are focussed, purposeful and the relationship between teachers and students is very strong.

This does not happen by accident of course. Halcombe School has well-established and good rules, routines and standards in all facets of school-life. Those standards help our pupils to know what it means to be a learner, what it means to be a friend, know what it means to do well. As a result we have created a very supportive learning and social environment here.

Keeping up the standards continues to be a focus, as does their development or adjustment, to ensure they are relevant for life and for our pupils' future.

Know that your community school has done, and is doing, a great job.

Have a great week.

Alastair & the 'H' Team.

Board of Trustee Notes

Twice each term the Board of Trustees meets in the staffroom (or via Zoom recently), to discuss the direction of the school, hear how well our students are doing and consider new initiatives and ideas. We are an active and motivated group. At our last BoT meeting last week we actioned the following:

- Approved a new Auditor for the coming years;
- Discussed and reviewed upcoming school camps;
- Reviewed the Enrolment Scheme and the latest Lockdown event;
- We set the first day of school for 2022 as Monday, January 31st.

We have found that the extension to Room 1 is no longer feasible given the costs of the job. Instead, we have re-prioritised a new set of building work to be done throughout the school which we expect will begin in the new term. We will be announcing these to you shortly. Rest assured we are very aware of the burgeoning numbers in our juniors and the new priorities reflect this.

Senior Social

The students in Rooms 7 and 8 have their dance extravaganza **THIS** Thursday night. Have a great time kids! Please check KIT Books for more details.

Winter Sports Prizegiving

We will be presenting our major winter sports awards during assembly on Friday.

School Activities under Level Two

With events like Cross Country and Pet Day coming up, we are considering how we run these under Level Two. It is of great importance that adults coming into school observe Level two protocols: Masks on, Scan in, Sanitise often, and Social Distancing. It is important we all observe these rules until we get to Level One. These are a small price to pay.

Cross Country

All classes will be training each day next term, in the lead up to our cross country on Wednesday 27th October. Students will need suitable running clothes and shoes. More information about the cross country will come home at the beginning of Term 4. Be aware of Level Two protocols (as above).

Start Date 2022

As above the Board of Trustees has approved the start date for 2022. We will begin our learning for all pupils on Monday, January 31st. Book in your holiday events now!

Student Achievement Data News

The Board of Trustees often gets reports about all our pupils' achievement and well-being. At the recent Board of Trustees meeting, we had an Achievement Report tabled and discussed. It is very apparent that our pupils do very well here in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. We have a very consistent, strong teaching and learning programme and this report highlighted this once again. Some highlights from the achievement report are:

- Mathematics: 93% of our pupils are achieving At or Above curriculum expectations. We have extension and support learning in place throughout the school.
- Reading: Just over 91% of Halcombe pupils achieve at or above expectations for NZ schools. Our students display a wide variety of reading interests and come from home that support reading character. Reading is greatly celebrated in Halcombe School - think PTA support for the Library, The Book Fair, etc.
- Writing: 83% of our pupils write very well. They have a consistent and rigorous writing programme throughout the school, which shows increasing complexity as pupils move through the school.

Our Māori pupils do as well as, if not better than other ethnicities, in all three areas. Our families support and prepare our students for learning before they start school. Parents are also very supportive of support programmes where their children need it.

As a staff, we are very pleased with these results. Our classrooms are focussed and learning flourishes here. We are grateful to the support from the Board for learning, and from our community too. Well done Halcombe Kids!

These results need to be celebrated. We should all be proud of the achievements and progress of all our pupils.

Garden Working Bee & PTA News

Wow! What a team of people we had here at school on Saturday. They came with chainsaws, shovels, rakes and did a fantastic job of removing the dead, dying and mangled trees. Thank you all so much for coming and doing this. It looks amazing!

We were also thrilled with the results of the recent Lamb Fattening Scheme. An incredible \$23,700 was raised. What a result! Thank you so much to all those involved.

Calves at Pet Day

Children who have indicated that they might bring a calf to Pet Day, will be given information to help with preparation and safety around M. Bovis.

Pet Day Organisation for Thursday 21st October 2021 (Week 1 of Term 4)

Pet entries are due by tomorrow, **Wednesday 29th September. NO LATE ENTRIES.**

On the day, children with pets arrive at school **no later than 8.45am and must be ready for judging at 9am.** They must stay with their pets out on the field. Judging will begin at 9.00am and should be finished by 10.30am. Be aware and please let others know of our Level Two protocols (in this newsletter).

All pets must be under control at all times.

- Lamb & Calf rings will be next to the hedge.
- Kid goats beside the dog ring.
- Dogs – ring closest to Room 1. This competition is **ONLY** for Years 5-8 children. There is no Junior Dog Competition, and dogs cannot be entered in the General Pet Section. **Dogs must stay on a leash at all times, and stay with the child.**
- All other pets will be in the area between the Library and the Adventure Playground, except horses/ponies which should be in the centre of the field.
- We ask that parents leave their children with their pets.

Indoor Exhibits

Each class will present 2 exhibits **which are made at school.** You are invited to the **HALL** to see the **indoor exhibits.**

Pet Day Sausage Sizzle

There will be a sausage sizzle at Pet Day – more details to come. If you'd like to have one, please come along with \$2 on the day. Same for pupils.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Halcombe Tennis Survey

There is a parent-led initiative for the Halcombe Tennis Courts. It'd be great to see these facilities being used well and seeing our children and families having fun together there. If there is enough interest, we may be able to provide coaching and organised sessions for budding tennis players. Some equipment may be able to be supplied to try out. For any answers to your questions, please contact: Bex Lintott - bexlintott@hotmail.co.nz

Please complete the following survey if you are interested in your child taking part in after school tennis lessons at the Halcombe Tennis courts starting next term. You can return this to the School Office by FRIDAY this week.

1. What is the tennis ability of your child? (Please circle) Beginner Intermediate Advanced
2. What age is your child?
3. What day is your child available for lessons? M T W Th F
4. Would your family visit the courts on the weekend? Yes No
5. Are you interested in being a member of the Halcombe Tennis Club Committee? Yes No

Name (your and child's):

Contact Ph:

Email:



Marton Swim Club

MARTON SWIM CENTRE

swimming for our community-
fun, affordable and friendly



\$40 for 1 night
\$60 for both

Becci: 02793219102
Wendy: 0212796671
martonswimclub2019@gmail.com

5.45-6.45 pm Tuesday and Thursday

